AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (currently amended) A method for voltage regulation in an electrical power supply system for a motor vehicle, which contains having a supercapacitor [[(4)]], wherein in a short-term standby mode (ST), the an energy supply for the supercapacitor is refreshed as required in order to maintain a minimum energy supply in the supercapacitor.
- 2. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 1, wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor [[(4)]] is refreshed in the short-term standby mode (ST) when the <u>a</u> voltage across the supercapacitor has fallen below a predetermined minimum value (U_1) .
- 3. (currently amended) The method as elaimed in according to claim 2, wherein in a long-term standby mode (LT), the energy supply for the supercapacitor [[(4)]] is refreshed as a reaction to an activation signal, in order to produce a minimum energy supply in the supercapacitor [[(4)]].
- 4. (currently amended) The method as elaimed in according to claim 3, wherein the activation signal is triggered periodically in time and/or after detection of a predetermined event, in particular the opening of the a door of a motor vehicle.

- 3 - (Amendment - Application 10/674,935 - FGTL 81073011)

- 5. (currently amended) The method as elaimed in according to claim 4, wherein a refreshing process for the energy supply in the short-term standby mode (ST) and/ or in the long-term standby mode (LT) is ended when the voltage across the supercapacitor [[(4)]] exceeds a predetermined maximum value (U_h) .
- 6. (currently amended) The method as elaimed in according to claim 5, wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor [[(4)]] is refreshed by transferring energy from a battery [[(7)]] in the electrical power supply system.
- 7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 6, wherein at the start of the short-term standby mode (ST) and/or of or the long-term standby mode (LT), the supercapacitor [[(4)]] is discharged down to a predetermined discharge voltage (U_h), with the energy which is drawn in the process withdrawn from the supercapacitor preferably being transferred to a battery [[(7)]] in the electrical power supply system.
- 8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 7, wherein the short-term standby mode (ST) preferably changes to the long-term standby mode (LT) after a time period of one minute to two months, particularly preferably after about 24 hours.

- 4 - (Amendment - Application 10/674,935 - FGTL 81073011)

- 9. (currently amended) An electrical power supply system for a motor vehicle having comprising a supercapacitor [[(4),]] distinguished by and a monitoring unit [[(6)]], which is coupled to the supercapacitor and is designed to carry out a method for assist with voltage regulation comprising entering a including the ability to enter a short-term standby mode (ST), wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor is refreshed as needed in order to maintain a minimum energy supply in the supercapacitor.
- 10. (currently amended) The electrical power supply system as claimed in according to claim 9, wherein loads [(3, 5)] having a high dynamic load component are connected to the supercapacitor [(4)].

- 5 - (Amendment - Application 10/674,935 - FGTL 81073011)